FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS) PROJECT FACT SHEET

SEPTEMBER 1994

HNC REVISION: 15 JULY 1997 TAG REVIEW DATE: 26 AUGUST 1997

1. SITE NAME: Pratt Precision Bombing Range #2

SITE NUMBER: B07KS024700

LOCATION:

City: Greensburg

County: Kiowa State: Kansas

PROJECT NUMBER: B07KS024701

CATEGORY: ΟE

INPR RAC:

ASR RAC: 3

3 TAG RAC:

2. POC'S:

> GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICT: GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION:

> Name: John Vento Name: David Nusz Office: CEMRK-MD-H Office: CEMRD-PM-H Phone: 816-983-3357 Phone: 402-697-2523

HEADQUARTERS:

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ASR SUPPORT DISTRICT:

ASR TECHNICAL REVIEWER: ASR SUPPORT DISTRICT:
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3. SITE DESCRIPTION: The former Pratt Precision Bombing Range (PBR) #2 consisted of 2,560 acres located 10 miles northwest of Greensburg, Kiowa County, Kansas in Sections 10(east half), 11,

12(west half), 13(west half), 14, and 15(east half), Township 27 South, Range 19 West. Half of the land is used for cropland and half for grazing/pasture. There are several landowners. The Yahootie Land Inc. leases or owns most tracts.

The ranges are located in sand hills close to major streams. The surface can slope from 4 to 20%. Terrain generally slopes to the east. The elevation of the site and the surrounding area ranges between a low of about 2,220 feet (NGVD) on the east to a high of about 2,260 feet (NGVD) west. Vegetation is mainly grass with sparse scrub bush. Bare areas with blown out places atop hills are common. There are areas of severe wind erosion where the plant cover has been stripped and the sand is easily eroded by the wind. Drainage is into Rattlesnake Creek, which meanders just south of the area and flows east into the Arkansas River near Sterling, Kansas. The Arkansas River then flows through Oklahoma and Arkansas into the Mississippi River. Surface drainage networks are not developed. Surface water probably soaks into the sandy soil and drains internally. Some ponds which are probably either spring or ground water fed are present.

4. SITE HISTORY: The Army Air Forces acquired the 2,560 acre site by negotiated lease and condemnation in 1943. The area was used by Pratt Army Air Field as a PBR to train pilots and their crews in daytime and nighttime precision bombing. There were no improvements. The site remained under DOD control during the period of the DOD ownership. The site was reported surplus on 19 July 1946 and the leases were terminated 9 December 1946. A Bomb and Shell Disposal Team was dispatched at the time the area was reported surplus. A thorough search of the area was made and the site was sufficiently decontaminated for release.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area: Entire Site

Size, Acres: 2,560

Former Use: Precision Bombing Range
Present Use: Grazing and cropland
Probable End Use: Grazing and cropland

Ordnance Presence: Confirmed

Type: Practice Bombs, 100 lb., M38A2

Ordnance Presence: Potential

Type: Bombs, HE, 250 lb. and 500 lb.

6. CURRENT STATUS: The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Pratt PBR #2 was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in September 1994.

- 7. STRATEGY: Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA)
- 8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS: The Huntsvile Center Technical Advisory Group recommended a strategy of EE/CA, RAC 3. The ASR site inspection included the area where the target bullseye was formerly located and only one fragment of a practice bomb was found. The site is RAC 3 because of a possibility that high explosive (HE) bombs were used at the site, based on comments in a clearance report dated 26 October 1946. The ASR author could not confirm the statement in this document that HE was used at the site. Other than this document, all interviews, fragments previously found at the site, documentation, newspapers and rational indicate that only practice bombs were used. The ASR author concludes that a few HE bombs could have been dropped on the site.

HNC Safety Comments: He agreed with the strategy of EE/CA, RAC 3. Other comments: (1)Although used as a PBR, a Bomb and Shell Disposal Team report of 1946 indicates that HE bombs were used on this site. (2) There is no indication of chemical warfare materials (CWM) at the site and the site should be removed from the CWM INPR Data Base.

Clearance at the Site: At Appendix C-6, a document dated 26 October 1946 by 9800th TSU-CE, Detachment Number 7, Bomb and Shell Disposal Team, indicated that a thorough clearance of the site was accomplished. Findings were: (1)A quantity of 5 canisters of black powder from 38 M38A2 Practice Bombs were found on the surface and 11 others were dug up. (2)A few large craters and shrapnel from HE bombs were found, which showed that 250 and 500 lb. HE bombs were used. No live HE bombs were found. It was determined that the site was safe from explosives and sufficiently decontaminated for release.

Natural Resources: Federally and State threatened species occur within the site area and are listed in ASR Findings, page 4-5, para 4.5.2. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities.

Historical Resources: The ASR did not indicate if historical/cultural resources were found to be present at the site. Any intrusive measures taken within the area will require oversight by the State Historical Preservation Office and/or other like organizations.

- 9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA
- 10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only

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